

## BAXTER SPRINGS NEWS.

M. H. GARDNER, Editor and Publisher.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 1890.

### FARMERS AND LABORERS.

#### A GRAND MEETING OF FARMERS' ALLIANCE AND KNIGHTS OF LABOR MEN.

Strong Resolutions Passed Demanding Legislation and a Strict Enforcement of the Laws Now Existing in the Interest of Laborers.

About 400 delegates and members of the Farmers' Alliance and Knights of Labor orders of this county met in the opera house at Columbus Wednesday in joint convention for the purpose of consolidating, as far as practicable, the two organizations for the mutual benefit of all laboring men.

The Knights of Labor met in G. A. R. hall at 11 a. m. and elected C. O. Fee president and C. T. Dana secretary. The purpose of this meeting was the selection of delegates to confer with the alliance on a basis of union. The following delegates were named: Galea, J. C. Hubbard; Baxter Springs, R. P. McGregor; Columbus, Van Prather and Mrs. Dr. Scott; Seamonville, Dr. H. Mahan and Wm. Grady; Weir City, (unknown); Hallowell, M. D. Hileman; Stippville, (unknown).

This meeting then adjourned to meet with a committee of one delegate from each alliance club at 1 p. m.

At the Farmers' Alliance meeting in the opera house to elect delegates Mr. M. A. Houseboulder of Columbus was called to the chair and John Holliday chosen secretary. James Elliott assistant secretary.

On behalf of the Farmers' Alliance it was moved and carried that the delegations select one member from each sub-alliance to act as a conference committee together with a similar committee from the Knights of Labor and report as to the best method of accomplishing the objects sought for.

The committee as selected was as follows: From alliance number 318 F. M. Scott, 316 A. Bagnell, 353 John Stauffer, 787 J. P. Hartley, 785 Wm. Seamonville, 820 M. I. Davis, 1149 Samuel Bims, 314 E. B. Davis, 811 Jerry Reagan, 315 Ed. Wallace, 246 W. W. Bryant, 247 G. W. Canfield, 343 F. J. Ellis, 444 J. B. Douglas, 988 H. S. Harvey, 248 C. D. Arnold, 411 Wm. Little, 352 E. Hall, 1150 A. E. Leeper, 1152 J. R. Burris, 245 C. H. May, 271 V. L. Browning, 326 I. Easterling, 497 G. H. Beale, 616 W. J. Horner, 435 W. E. Brooks, 317 F. M. Rockafeller, Maplewood alliance A. N. Cunningham, Hopewell alliance S. L. Cheney, Union Chapel alliance Wm. Mallett, Pleasant Hill alliance W. R. Larimer, Millersburg alliance Douglas Scott, Columbus Alliance D. M. Jones.

The committee then repaired to the G. A. R. hall and met in conjunction with the Knights of Labor committee.

John Stauffer was chosen chairman and D. M. Jones secretary.

The chairman briefly stated the object of the meeting to be the recommending of such measures to the convention as would result in mutual benefit to the laboring classes generally.

Hon. Van B. Prather, who was a delegate to the national joint convention of the Farmers' Alliance and Knights of Labor held at St. Louis in December last, was loudly called for and began by reading the agreement and declaration of principles adopted by that convention. He said the two orders had not been consolidated, but confederated, it being the unanimous opinion of that convention that laborers should stand together, hand in hand. The orders were being accused of having only political objects in view, and in answer he said Webster defined the word politics to mean "the science of government," and that being the case and as this government is supposed to be a government of the people, for the people and by the people, he believed the only way to remedy the evils of this government was through the ballot. He did not expect the two orders to consolidate in this county or country, but having substantially the same objects, one with the other, they should confederate and act in unison as far as practicable. He suggested that the agreement adopted by the St. Louis convention be ratified here.

Mr. C. O. Fee, district master workman of the Knights of Labor, then read the following extract from the Journal of United Labor, the official organ of the Knights of Labor, showing the political aspect of that order:

We are now daily in receipt of letters from all points of the compass, asking how they can be organized and brought into the order. From the fear of a large proportion of the inquiries, the impression has gone abroad that the Knights of Labor is a political organization to last through a campaign, or something of that sort. If anyone joins the order under this impression he is mistaken.

As an order we have a higher mission to serve than the forming of a mere political party. Anyone reading our declaration of principles will see that, while we are seeking reforms that must in some instances come through the ballot box, yet by far the highest motive that concerns us is the education of the masses to that point where they will fully see and know not only their own wrongs and degradation, but see a full and final solution of the labor problem, and when this is attained each will see clearly for himself in his own way the only path that leads to liberty and equality. When this advanced point is once at-

tained then will the party that is to carry the desired measures to success be evolved. But that will be evolved slowly and imperceptibly almost. But that such will be the final outcome of organization and education is the silver lining of the cloud that now lowers so threateningly above us. When such a party does come, its name will not be the laboring man's party, or the bond holder's party, but the party of the people, for the people and by the people.

A party refusing to receive special privileges or grant them.

A party that will not sit idly by and do nothing, or worse than nothing, when thousands and hundreds of thousands of honest men are tramping our streets wanting to work, willing to work, and none to be had at any price—without employment at home and a "Tramp Act" threatening them if they dare to seek it at a distance.

A party that will not permit a set of politicians to manipulate the finances of the country so that ten thousand, four hundred and seventy-eight business men in one year are thrown upon the streets penniless and without a home, at a loss to the country of \$231,383,132, involving 603,420 traders, or, in other words, catching one business man out of every sixty-four.

A party that will declare in tones of thunder just what kind of metal or paper shall constitute the money of this country, and thereby prevent a lot of shysters and sharpers of all descriptions from declaring that one kind of money is worth \$2.00 and another almost worthless, yet all the money of the people.

A party that will demand and establish labor bureaus.

A party that will declare and enforce a law declaring that not another foot of public lands shall be given to railroads and corporations.

A party that will insist upon exact equality before the laws.

A party that will be humane enough to believe that pure air should and must be found in our mines and factories if scientific research can devise ways and means for providing it, and that all buildings where men are employed are well supplied with fire escapes and other means of safety.

A party that will abolish the contract system on all work done for the people for the use of the public.

A party that believes if we are to have a free country that it can only exist by reason of the intelligence of its citizens, and if intelligence is to be the base of our continued existence, the child must be educated and fitted for the position he is to occupy in the future. This can only be done by prohibiting children from going into our workshops and mills before attaining their fourteenth year.

A party that will not confine a man in prison because he is unfit to associate with his fellow-man, and then tax the community to board and lodge the criminal free, and sell his labor so as to enter into competition with the same labor of the honest law-abiding citizens.

A party that will make it fashionable to be honest, and pay an equal price for equal labor, regardless of color, creed, country or sex.

T. V. POWDERLY,  
Grand Master Workman.

Some time was then taken up with motions and discussions regarding amendments to and the adoption of the agreement as a whole.

B. F. Hogg thought the agreement was binding on members of both orders by virtue of their being members.

Mr. Fee wanted demands made for legislation in the interest of miners. There was considerable discussion on this and relative points after which the St. Louis convention agreement was on motion adopted as a whole.

Some amendments and additional applying to Kansas were made and as finally adopted the agreement is in substance as follows:

#### AGREEMENT.

Agreement made between the Farmers' Alliance and the Knights of Labor of Cherokee county:

The committee have read the demands of the several associations, and hereby endorse the following as a basis of union for concentrated action in the affairs of our state and nation and agree, in order to carry out these objects, that we will support for office only such men as can be depended upon to enact such principles into statute law, uninfluenced by party causes.

We demand an abolition of national banks, and the substitution of legal tender treasury notes in lieu of national bank notes, issued in sufficient volume to do the business of the country on a cash system; regulating the amount needed on a per capita basis as the business interests demand; that all money issued by the government shall be legal tender in payment of all debts public and private.

Second—We demand that congress shall pass such laws as shall effectually prevent the dealing in futures of all agricultural and mechanical productions, pursuing a stringent system of procedure in trials, so as to secure prompt convictions, and imposing such penalties as shall secure perfect compliance with the law.

Third—We demand the free and unlimited coinage of silver.

Fourth—We demand the passage of laws prohibiting the alien ownership of land, and that our legislature pass such laws condemning all alien lands and purchasing the same for the benefit of public schools of the state they being given three years in which to sell lands now owned by them, after which said lands to be sold to residents of the state as other school lands. We demand the reclaiming by the government of all lands held by railroads and other corporations may hold in excess of their present actual use, and that such lands be held for the use of actual settlers only.

Fifth—Believing in the doctrine of equal rights to all and special favors to none, we demand that taxation, national and state, shall not be used to build up one interest at the expense of another. We believe that the money of the country should be kept as much as possible in the hands of the people, and hence we demand that all revenues, national, state or county, be limited to the necessary expenses of the government economically administered.

Sixth—We demand that the government shall control the means of communication and transportation to the extent of insuring their operation in the interest of the people, with due regard for the rights of those owning and operating the same.

Seventh—We demand that our state legislature procure the copyright, print, bind and furnish to the public schools of the state, at actual cost, a series of school books for use in each school district in the state; the printing of such books to be done by the state in a manner similar to

# WRIGHT'S SPECIAL SALE of BABY CARRIAGES



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we will place on sale at SPECIAL PRICES for ONE DAY thirty-six BABY CABS ranging in price from \$2.50 to the best goods in the market. We will put a price on them to close the entire lot out in one day. The goods will not be on sale before the day named.

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that followed in the government printing.

Eighth—For better protection of the organization, it is hereby agreed that such seals or emblems as the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association and Farmers' Alliance may adopt will be recognized and protected in transit or otherwise by the Knights of Labor, and the labels and seals of the Knights of Labor will in like manner be recognized by the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association and the Farmers' Alliance of Cherokee county, Kansas.

H. S. Harvey stated that as a gigantic trust of school book publishers had just been formed it was now more than ever necessary that the seventh section of the agreement should be carried out in order to protect the people from robbery.

Samuel Bims suggested a section be inserted demanding a reduction of salaries of county officers.

The following resolutions were adopted by the joint committee:

Resolved, That every mining, manufacturing or quarrying, mercantile, railroad, street railway, telegraph, telephone, municipal corporation, every incorporated express company and water company, shall pay weekly each and every employee engaged in its business the wages earned by such employment to within six days of said payment and that the necessary laws be passed to enforce the same.

Resolved, That we demand the abolishment of the use of the state public printers and require of the state legislature the passage of such laws as will require the state of Kansas to do all her own printing in the same manner as does the United States.

On motion committee rose and proceeded to report to the convention.

After being read by the secretary the agreement was taken up by the convention and adopted by section as above printed.

The utmost harmony prevailed in the convention throughout and notwithstanding the heavy rain and exceedingly disagreeable weather nearly every portion of the county was represented, and we believe all returned home satisfied with the work accomplished.

The County Farmers' Alliance continued in session nearly all day Thursday and yesterday, but we are unable to give full report.

#### Ex-Soldiers in Session.

A mass convention of union ex-soldiers was held at Joplin last Saturday, says the Herald, to take action with reference to pension legislation, and to effect a permanent organization.

The following resolutions were reported and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we believe congress should enact a law giving every honorably discharged soldier who is now or shall become fifty years of age a pension.

Resolved, That we fully endorse the pending measures known as the dependent and service pension bills.

Resolved, That we are in favor of granting to every widow of an honorably discharged soldier a pension of twelve dollars per month from date of soldier's death, without regard to cause of death.

Resolved, That we believe that congress should repeal the act of March 3, 1879, known as the arrearage act so that the government may not bleed the statute of limitations against her soldiers any more than against her bond owners.

Resolved, That we believe that we should instruct our representatives in congress as to what pension legislation we desire to have enacted, and that we believe the time has now come for them to do something for us if they ever intend to do anything.

Resolved, That we heartily endorse the action of those who are now working for us in congress.

The meeting to effect permanent organization will be held April 26.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria,  
When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria,  
When she became a Girl, she clung to Castoria,  
When she had Children, she gave them Castoria.

Cannot some one produce a better wagon wheel than now exists? While American wheels are the best in the world, American roads are in the same or a greater proportion the worst, and there is needed a wheel which will have a strong yet elastic tire, something that is more enduring than the rubber tire, which is in use to some extent, but not with every degree of satisfaction.

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#### FOR THE YOUNG MEN.

Prof. James H. Canfield of the Kansas university addressed a large audience at the Y. M. C. A. auditorium in Kansas City Sunday afternoon. His subject was, "A Young Man for the Times." He said:

First, he must be an intelligent young man. There never was a time when there was so much intelligence in the world nor a time when there was so much intelligence needed. Some of you may be strong enough to do without learning, as I grant many have done. You may be able to walk from here to Chicago, but I would rather take the most improved railway route were I going there. If the world is worth anything to you it is worth your while to accept what it is offering you. It is not a difficult matter for a man to gain intelligence in these days of newspapers, cheap books, free schools, etc. A man must be intelligent and think for himself. A man whose only idea of religion is what he gets from his minister or whose only idea of politics is what he gets from his party leader, will fail to get much real good out of life.

In the next place the man for the times must be active and energetic. The ox cart has gone, the stage coach has gone, the canal boat has gone, and I am not sure but steam is going. The man can do now in a day what once required five or ten days. The young man of to-day must keep quick step to the music of the century if he does not want to get left. In the third place the man of to-day must be unselfish and public spirited. There is a place for each one in the social organization, a place where each one can help some other.

There never was a time when character, looked at from a money standpoint, was worth as much as it is to-day. A New York banker once said to me that if he could find a man in whom he could put absolute faith to manage his finances and not disclose any of his business secrets, that money would be no object in retaining such a man. To-day an integrity is wanted that would sink ship in mid-ocean rather than cast anchor under the enemies flag. Christ first taught us the brotherhood of man, and to Him and His teachings we owe all that is noble and good we have in this world to-day.

Some one has said that boasting of what you will do is as unwise as to advertise your property. If your plans are good ones, some one else will catch them up and be in the field in time to divide the advantage with you. If they are not good, you may be certain no one will point out the errors in them, so that you cannot possibly gain ought by your communicativeness. The men who listen well, and are not in haste to impart their own secrets, are the ones who generally get along in the world.

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